



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/589,548	08/16/2006	Junji Kurachi	14434.106USWO	8496
52835 7590 08/14/2008 HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER & LARSON, P.C. P.O. BOX 2902 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0902				
EXAMINER				
GEORGE, PATRICIA ANN				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1794				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/14/2008		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/589,548

**Applicant(s)**

KURACHI ET AL.

**Examiner**

Patricia A. George

**Art Unit**

1794

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1 and 4-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CI/CD)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/10/08

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 1, and all claims dependent on it, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Applicants claim the glass substrate includes at least one oxide from a group of oxides. The selection of one oxide reads on the term "at least one." The selection of one oxide also reads on the limitation "wherein the total content of all of the at least one." Therefore when applicants' recite "wherein the total content of all of the at least one oxide is above 90% mol%", as in claim 1, one oxide selected from applicants' group, such as the B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is being claimed in quantities of above 90 mol%. After the discussed limitation, applicant further recites the presence of SiO<sub>2</sub> in an amount of 74 mol% or more, which makes the combined quantity of SiO<sub>2</sub>

and B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> above 164 mol%. It is not possible for a substrate to comprise over 100 mol%. It appears that applicant is attempting to recite -- wherein the glass substrate comprises: a first oxide of SiO<sub>2</sub> in an amount of 74 mol% or more; and a second oxide selected from the group of B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, GeO<sub>2</sub>, As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, ZrO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, SnO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, MgO, and BeO; wherein the combination of both first and second oxides are above 90 mol%. --- Claims 4, and 6, also have a similar problem with mol% as discussed above.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1 and all claim dependent on claim 1, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

A broad range or limitation together with a narrow range or limitation that falls within the broad range or limitation (in the same claim) is considered indefinite, since the resulting claim does not clearly set forth the metes and bounds of the patent protection desired. See MPEP § 2173.05(c). Note the explanation given by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in *Ex parte Wu*, 10 USPQ2d 2031, 2033 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1989), as to where broad language is followed by "such as" and then narrow language. The Board stated that this can render a claim indefinite by raising a question or doubt as to whether the feature introduced by such language is (a) merely exemplary of the remainder of the claim, and therefore not required, or (b) a required feature of the claims. Note also, for example, the decisions of *Ex parte Steigewald*, 131

Art Unit: 1794

USPQ 74 (Bd. App. 1961); *Ex parte Hall*, 83 USPQ 38 (Bd. App. 1948); and *Ex parte Hasche*, 86 USPQ 481 (Bd. App. 1949). In the present instance, claim 1 recites the broad recitation of about 90% of SiO<sub>2</sub>, and the claim also recites 74% or more of SiO<sub>2</sub>, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, and 4-12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takei. (JP2002201040)

Takei teaches glass substrates having uneven surface areas that have been pressed and etched are formed of compositions that include all of the limitations of claim 1, including:

45-78 % mass weight of SiO<sub>2</sub>, as in claims 4, 7-8, 11;

2 to 22% mass weight of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, as in claims 5 and 6-8 ;

4 to 15% mass weight of B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, as in claims 5 and 6-8;

0 to 3% mass weight of K<sub>2</sub>O, as in claim 9;

and 0 to 2% mass weight of Li<sub>2</sub>O (i.e. substantially free from Li<sub>2</sub>O), as in claim

10.

Takei fails to teach the quantities of the oxides are in applicants' specifically claimed units of Mol%.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to modify the method of manufacturing a glass substrate, as Takei, to include the molecular percent of the oxides used to make the substrate, because knowing the quantities of the substrate, one of skill would have the ability to convert mass percent to molecular percent. Further, although Takei fails to teach one embodiment that includes each and every component having applicants' claimed ranges, the reference of Takei provides one of skill with a reasonable expectation of success, by teaching each and every component may be effectively combined to manufacture the composition of a glass substrate.

As for claim 12, the product is taught, as discussed above.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicants' assert on page 6, that the Takei reference can not be applied to a limitation that recites units of mol, because it is toward units of wt%, however the applicants have provided no evidence that the applied range of 45-78 wt% fails to encompass the 74 mol % claimed. One of skill in the art would be able to convert wt% to mol%.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia A. George whose telephone number is (571) 272-5955. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue. - Fri. between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Keith Hendricks can be reached on (571) 272-1401. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

Art Unit: 1794

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Patricia A George  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1794

/Patricia A George/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1794

/Binh X Tran/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1792